
THE ACTS CHURCH 2:42
"EXPERIENCE REAL CHURCH"

September 15, 2013

TEXT: *Romans 1:16-23 KJV*

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. (17) For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. (18) For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; (19) Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. (20) For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: (21) Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. (22) Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, (23) And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

INTRO: *When Is It Correct to Compromise the Gospel Message*

The Gospel of Christ is the Power of God unto Salvation ***to everyone that believes***

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 KJV

But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you **to salvation** ***through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth***: (14) Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God ordained that the way of salvation is through belief in the Only Begotten Son Of God… Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the Anointed One of God

The Way, The Truth, The Life…
No man comes unto the Father but by ME!

So…

When Is It Correct to Compromise the Gospel Message?

I. *The Gospel Message Of Jesus Christ Is Un-Compromising*

Acts 4:9-12 KJV

If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; (10) Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by ***the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth***, ***whom ye crucified***, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. (11) ***This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders***, which is become the head of the corner. (12) ***Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved***.

Acts 2:22-24 KJV

Ye men of Israel, hear these words; ***Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know***: (23) Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ***ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:*** (24) Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Acts 3:12-15 KJV

And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? (13) The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, ***the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus***; whom ***ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go***. (14) ***But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you***; (15) ***And killed the Prince of life***, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

II. *The Gospel Message Of Jesus Christ Is Convicting*

Acts 2:37-38 KJV

Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, ***what shall we do?*** (38) Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

III. *The Gospel Message Of Jesus Christ Is Compelling*

Acts 2:41-42 KJV

Then ***they that gladly received his word were baptized***: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. (42) And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 4:1-4 KJV

And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them, (2) Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead. (3) And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide. (4) Howbeit ***many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.***

So…

When Is It Correct to Compromise the Gospel Message?

NEVER!

Southern Baptists Pressured to Stop Soul Winning

Issue Date: January/February **2000**

A series of booklets issued by the **Southern Baptist Convention** has drawn an ***unprecedented reaction from the liberal media, mainline religious leaders and members of congress.*** The booklets are issued as prayer guides urging Southern Baptists to pray for and reach out to non-Christians such as Jews, Muslims and Hindus.

The booklets use the customary evangelism language pointing out that Hindus are "lost in the hopeless darkness of Hinduism" and calls for Christians to bring them to the light of Christ.

Reactions have been surprisingly strong and from unexpected quarters. Major Jewish organizations, Liberal Christian groups, and U.S. Hindu leaders accused the Baptists of ***"spiritual intolerance" and "theological genocide."***

The Washington Post claimed that the SBC was launching "a new, aggressive campaign aimed at converting Jews to Christianity."

A spokesman for the Jewish Anti-Defamation League accused the Southern Baptists of ***"A spiritual narrowness that invites theological hatred."***

"It is pure arrogance for any religion to assume that they hold 'the truth,'" he added. ***"It is permissible for any religion to claim truth but none can claim 'the truth.'"***

Taking up the cause of the Hindus, a ***U.S. congressman, Jim McDermott, wrote a "dear colleague" letter on official congressional stationery to all 434 fellow congressmen asking their help in urging Southern Baptists to "end your conversion campaign directed to members of the Hindu faith."***

McDermott and six other congressmen followed up with a letter to Morris Chapman, president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee. ***"We cannot understand how men and women, raised and educated in the world's bastion of religious freedom and tolerance can characterize another religion as spiritually dark and false,"*** they wrote.

Chapman responded, pointing out that ***using a government office to pressure Christians to stop obeying the great commission*** was "***improper and reprehensible***." "***Your letter presents us with a real dilemma***," he wrote. "***Do we attempt to obey God, or do we take our signals ... from persons such as you who counsel 'a more tolerant and enlightened' approach***?"

Acts 4:18-20 KJV

And ***they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus***. (19) But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether ***it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye***. (20) ***For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard***.

Acts 4:31-32a KJV

And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. (32) ***And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul…***

Next Week we will pick up as to why!

Romans 1:17-19 KJV

For therein is ***the righteousness of God revealed*** from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. (18) For ***the wrath of God is revealed*** from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; (19) Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.